

25X1A (Prepared by [redacted]  
31 Jan 51)

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*any given 8*

USSR AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL BRANCHES,  
AND CHINESE SECTION OF THE FAR EAST BRANCH, FDD

*2 Feb 51*

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USSR BRANCH

SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL BRANCH

CHINESE SECTION,  
FAR EAST BRANCH

25X1A

[redacted] positions in each  
of the following units:

[redacted] individuals in  
each of the following units:

[redacted] each of the following units:  
1.

1. Mining and Metallurgy
2. Fuels and Power
3. Transportation and Telecommunications
4. Manufacturers & Chemical Industries
5. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
6. General Economics
7. Political, Sociological, and Military

1. Physics
2. Electronics & Electrical Engineering
3. Chemistry and Medicine
4. Organization of Sciences
5. Engineering Sciences

1. Political and Military
2. Economic
3. Transportation
4. Sociological

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Scientific and Technical Branch, FDD

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1. The work of this branch may be divided into two major categories:

A. Exploitation of Soviet scientific literature for intelligence purposes - this resulted in the production of Periodical Abstracts major studies such as the Academy of Science publication [redacted]

B. Translation of Soviet scientific literature on request appearing [redacted]

2. Qualifications of personnel in the branch are not recognized as adequate by OSI. Though we have tried for several years to get scientists, we have not been successful. Even now with a large number of applicant there is scarcely one with any scientific background, let alone qualifications.

3. We have been ordered to cease publication of Periodical Abstracts, thereby cutting out the main intelligence exploitation function of scientific literature. Major studies such as the Academy of Science publication although related to science are primarily biographical and organizational studies which do not require personnel trained in scientific fields. This leaves largely translation of Soviet scientific literature on request.

4. We conclude that it would be wise to dissolve the Scientific and Technical Branch and merge its personnel and activities with the USSR Branch for the following reasons:

A. The work being done in both Branches deals with the USSR. Merging would put all work dealing with the USSR in one branch.

B. Efficiency could be improved in more effective use of personnel - both as regards flexibility in assignment and use of, in most cases, their major specialty instead of their minor specialty.

C. The main remaining work of Scientific and Technical Branch, i.e. the translation of scientific literature would be handled

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5. This proposal means that, lacking the qualified (OSI standards) personnel and with little prospect of getting any, we should get out of the scientific field except insofar as we have commitments to provide translation service.

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